



London II Court
of Common Council

By the Mayor.



Orders set dovne for Blackwellhall.



Whereas by Common Counsell holden in the Chamber of the Guildhall of the Cittie of London, before the right honorable the Lord Mayor of the same Cittie, and the right worshipfull the Aldermen his brethren, and the Commons in the same Common Counsell assembled, on the fifth day of this instant moneth of May. One Act was made and agreed vpon, the tenor wherof hereafter followeth in these wordes.

Whereas diuers good lawes, statutes, and ordinaunces, haue bene heretofore deuised, and made, for the true and perfect making of clothes, and other the commodities hereafter mentioned, and for the vieweing, and searching of the same: And yet by rea-

son that a great part of the clothes and commodities, brought to the Cittie of London to be sold, haue not bene brought to the open market place, or places appoynted for that purpose. But haue bene bought, and solde, in secrete and priuate houses, and places, by such as haue transported and vented them, in foraine partes beyond the seas, or retayled them in their shoppes at home or otherwise at their pleasure: The said clothes and other commodities neither haue bene, or could be conueniently viewed and searched, according to the true meaning of the sayd lawes, statutes and ordinaunces, and thereby as experience hath set forth, much deceitfull and euill cloth, and other commodities, haue not onely bene vttered, sold, and transported, from this Cittie of London, to foraine partes out of this Realme, to the great discredite of the sayd Cittie and whole Realme, and the commodities thereof, But also retayled and vttered within the same Cittie, to the great offence, losse, and preiudice of many her Maiesties louing subiectes, the wearers of the same. For remedy wherof. Be it enacted, ordayned, and established, by the authority of this Common Counsell, in manner and forme hereafter following. That is to say, that all, and all manner of Clothes, Rerlics, Frizes, Rugges, Bayes, Cottons, and Stockinges, and all other commodities made of wooll, or mixt with wooll, or of flax, tow, or hennep, or mixt with any of them, or of silke, crewell, or thredd, or mixte with them or any of them, and which are or shalbee made, wrought, wouen, or knitte, within her Maiesties dominions or any the partes thereof. And also all Dowlaffe, Lockeram, and Linnen clothes, made or to bee made in Brittain, in the partes beyond the Seas, which shall bee brought to this Cittie of London, or the Liberties of the same, or to any parte thereof, be it bought by former bargaine, or to be sold at any time from and after the tenth day of June next, shalbe brought to the common market place, or places thereunto appoynted, in, at, or neere Blackwellhall, within the sayd Cittie of London, and there in the same market place or places or some of them, put to sale and absolutely solde and not els where, within the sayd Cittie of London or the Liberties thereof, vppon payne to loose and forfeite, all and euery the Cloth, Clothes, wares, Merchandizes and other the sayd commodities that shall be vented, sold or vttered, otherwise then in manner, and forme aforesayd, or the value thereof. Except alwayes that all such Hampshire Kerlies as hereafter shalbe bought in the market of Southwarke in the county of Surrey, shall and may be brought from thence into the Cittie of London or liberties thereof, to the house of him or them that hath or shall so buy the same. So that such duties be payde for the hallage thereof vnto the clearke of Blackwellhall, as if the same had bene brought to the said market of Blackwellhall, and except also that all such Cloth and Clothes, and other the commodities aforesaid as shall at any time or times hereafter be bought vpon any former bargaines, to be made before they shalbe brought vnto the saide Cittie of London, and which shalbe afterwarde brought to the said Common market place or places, or any of them, and there presented, registred, and the duties of market roome payde, and a note in writing receiued from the Clarke for the same duties which shall be deliuered to him or them that so bought the foresaid Clothes and other comodities before they or any of them shalbe pitched or harbored in any other place or places, within the said Cittie of London, or liberties thereof, and also except all such Cloth and Clothes or other commodities aforesaid, which shalbe carried to any known Merchants house, and there laid down without his knowledge, if such Marchante, or any for him shall make it known to the Clarke of Blackwellhall within three daies nexte

following, and then pay the duties due for the same, and cause the same to be registered as aforesaid. And for that all and every person and persons may take knowledge of the lawfull market places in the said Cittie of London, for selling and buying of all the Cloth, Clothes, wares, and other comodities above specified. It is hereby notified, declared, ordained and enacted by the authority aforesaid, that Blackwelhall within the said Cittie of London, and the roomes therein or neere thereunto adioyning, now or hereafter to be used a common market place or places, for the said Cloth, Clothes wares and other comodities are and shalbe the ordained assigned and appointed market place or places for all forreiners to sell every of the saide severall Cloth, Clothes, wares and comodities in manner as thereunto heretofore, and now they haue beene and are accustomed to be used and not elsewhere. And it is also enacted, ordained, and declared, by the authority aforesayde, that from the sayde tenth day of June next, the lawfull times for selling and buying in any of the sayd Markets, or market place or places, shall bee and begin weekly on every Thursday at one of the clocke in the after noone, and continue vntill foure of the clocke of the same after noone, and on every Friday at eight of the clocke in the fore-noone, and continue vntill eleuen of the clock in the same fore-noone, and shall likewise begin in the afternoone of the same Friday, at one of the clocke, and continue vntill foure of the clocke of the same Friday in the after-noone, and shall begin againe every Saturday, at eight of the clocke in the fore-noone, and shall continue vntill eleuen of the clocke in the fore-noone of the same day, and that the sayd howers hereby appointed and limited for the beginning and ending of every the sayd market times shall be knowne by the ringing of the market bell in Blackwelhall aforesayd appointed for that use and purpose. This to be held and continued weekly every weeke throughout the yeare, from yeare to yeare, (the twelue dayes in Christmas onely excepted.) And that all and every such Cloth, Clothes, and other comodities before specified as shalbe there put to sale at any other time or times, then is aforesaid limited shalbe forfeited. And it is further ordained and enacted that from and after the said tenth day of June next no maner person or persons not being free of the said Cittie shall by himselfe or any other for him or by his meanes or practise bargain or sell in any place or places within the liberties of this City, out of the said assigned market place or places any of the said Clothes, Kersies or other comodities, nor shall buy any of the same within any the said assigned market place or places to the intente to sell the same againe, in any of the saide assigned Market places or elsewhere, within the saide Cittie or liberties thereof, vpon paine to forfeite and loose for every such offence the Cloth, Clothes, Kersies and other the saide comodities so bought or soulded, or the value thereof. And also that every person and persons being free of this Cittie, which shall harbour or receiue the said Cloth Clothes or comodities so bought or soulded contrarie to the tenor of this Act and the true meaning thereof, shall forfeit and loose his freedome, and not to be thereunto readmitted but by the Lord Maior, Aldermen and Common Councell of the saide Cittie for the time being. And it is likewise hereby further enacted and ordained that no person or persons now free or hereafter to be made free of the saide Cittie, shall from and after the saide tenth day of June next sell or cause to be sold, any Cloth, Clothes, Kersies or any other the comodities aforesaid either in his owne name, or for or in the name of any other within the saide Common Markets or any of them, vpon paine to forfeit and loose every such Cloth, Clothes and other comodities so sold or the value thereof. And to the intent to cut of the great fraude and abuse used by sundry persons being free of this City, and others by forreine buying and selling, contrary to the auncient lawes, customes and liberties of the same Cittie, and for the better finding out of the same fraudulent dealings. It is further enacted by the authoritie aforesaid that the Clarke or officer for the collecting of duties due for the harbouring and pitching of clothes at the said Market of Blackwelhall and places aforesaid shall keepe a Register booke weekly throughout the whole yeare, of the names and surnames of the saide Clothmen and free-men, owners of such Clothes and Kersies, and other comodities, as shalbe bought vpon any former bargain, before they shall be brought to the sayd Cittie, and which shall be brought to the sayd Market place or places, according to the tenor of this Act, and shall register the true number, of such Clothes, Kersies, and other comodities, together with the names and surnames of the sayd free-men, or other buyers and sellers of the same: vpon payne that the sayd Officer shall for not keeping the sayde Booke truly and saythfully as aforesayd, and for not giuing a note in writing, for the duties payde to him or them that shall pay the same, according to the true meaning of this Act, shall forfeit and loose his said office. And if the owner of the said goods or his Carrier, be they forreiners or free, shall deny to the saide Officer to giue the true names and surnames of the buyers and sellers with the iust number, of all such Clothes and Kersies, and other comodities aforesayd, so brought to the hall aforesayd.

Then it is hereby further ordeyned and enacted, that the said buyers and sellers whether they be free or foreyners shall haue no benefite of the exception aboue specified in this present Act, concerning former bargaines, but shalbe bound to put to sale the same Cloth, Clothes and comodities aforesaid in Blackwelhall Market, or in other the place or places appoynted as aforesayd, as though there had bene no former bargayne of the same Clothes or other commodities. / And for the better reformation of the offences and abuses, purposed to be reformed and amended, by this present Act of Common Councell, and the more ready execution of the same. It is finally enacted, ordeyned, and established, by the authority aforesaid, that all, and all maner Cloth, Clothes, wares, comodities, somme and sommes of money, and other thinges whatsoener, that shall bee forfeited by vertue of this Acte shall bee obtayned, leuiéd, or recouered, either by seizure, or els by Action of debt, bill, plainte, or information, in the name of the Chamberlaine of the sayd City, being in the Queens Maiesties Court holden in the Chamber of the Guildhall of the sayd City, before the Mayor and Aldermen of the same, for the time being, wherein no Clogne, protection, or wager of law shall bee admitted or allowed. And that all the paynes, penalties, and forfeitures, to bee had or recouered by vertue of this Acte, the charges of recovery deducted, shall bee deuided into three equall partes, whereof one third parte shall bee imploied to the Mayor and Comminalty of the same City, towards the mainetenance and reparations [of Blackwell hall aforesayde: One other third parte to the vse of the poore children of Christes Hospitall within the sayd city, And the other third parte to him that will sue for the same, being a free-man.

Now to the ende that all persons whome the sayd Acte may in any sorte concerne, may take knowledge thereof, and thereby may the rather abyde the daunger of the penalties therein contayned. The Right honorable the Lord Mayor of the city aforesayde, and the Right worshipfull the Aldermen his brethren, Haue thought good by Proclamation to publish the same. Dated at the Guildhall of the cittie of London, the thirteenth day of May, in the seauen and thirtieth yeare of the Raigue of our Soueraigne Lady Elizabeth by the grace of God Queene of England, France, and Ireland, Defendor of the faith &c.

God saue the Queene

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~~May 1974~~

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